

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of 07 October 2003. Claims 1-26 are pending in the application, and Claims 1-26 have been rejected.

By this Response and Amendment, Claims 1-2, 11, 19-20, and 22-24 have been amended; new Claims 27-31 have been added, and Claims 3, 18, 21, and 25-26 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

No new matter has been added.

In view of the amendments above and remarks below, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination.

About The Invention

The present invention relates generally to apparatus and methods for a distributed location-based information service. More particularly, the present invention relates to a mobile communication device which receives a portion of the information stored in a database of information that is typically maintained by a location-based service provider, wherein that portion is specific to the geographic location, or region, in which the mobile communication device is located. In various aspects of the present invention, the processing of the database information is handled by the mobile communication device rather than by the location-based service provider thereby reducing the computation load on the service provider. In other aspects of the present invention the mobile communication device applies user preferences to the information downloaded from the location-based service provider, wherein those preferences act as a filter on the information, and the filtering may be based, for example, on the time of day, the number of information items, the geographic location associated with the information items, or the type, or subject matter of the information items. In other aspects of the present invention, information is downloaded to the mobile communication device in response to one or more of a plurality of triggering conditions such as for example, a power-on sequence, a registration with a cell in a cellular communication system, a user preference update, moving outside of a

predetermined boundary, or a time-based trigger.

Rejections under 35 USC 102(e)

Claims 1-26 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Hollenberg (US Patent 6,091,956).

With respect to the rejection of Claims 3, 18, 21, and 25-26, these Claims have been cancelled. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of these Claims have thereby been rendered moot.

With respect to the rejection of Claims 1-2, and 4-17, independent Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the mobile communication device is configured to receive a subset of the information of a location service provider, the subset of information regarding resources available proximate the location of the mobile communication device; and wherein the mobile communication device is further configured to receive the subset of information in response to any one of a plurality of triggering conditions, and independent Claim 11 has been amended to recite that the mobile communication device is configured to receive information in response to any one of a plurality of triggering conditions. Additionally, Claim 2 has been amended to recite that the plurality of triggering conditions comprise a device power-on sequence, a preference update, a boundary crossing by the device, a registration with a cell of a cellular communication system, and a periodic time-based request. Hollenberg does not appear to disclose, suggest, or provide motivation for downloading a subset of information in response to any one of a plurality of triggering conditions, particularly when those triggering conditions do not involve action by a user. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claims 1-2 and 4-17, in view of Hollenberg, have been overcome.

With respect to the rejection of Claims 19-20 and 22-24, independent Claim 19 has been amended to recite that the selected information comprises contact information. Through such contact information, a user may obtain further

information from a primary source of information rather than from the location service provider. This reduces the computational and communication load of the location service provider. Additionally, Claim 20 has been amended to recite that contact information comprises one or more of the group consisting of email addresses, telephone numbers, and URLs. Hollenberg does not appear to disclose, suggest, or provide motivation for downloading contact information, which may be considered an indirect form of information through which a user may obtain direct information about a product, service, or situation. Rather, Hollenberg appears to only disclose providing direct information to a device, that direct information concerning various products, services, or situations. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claims 19-20 and 22-24, in view of Hollenberg, have been overcome.

New Claims 27-31

New Claims 27-31, which depend directly from amended Claim 20, and indirectly from amended Claim 19, are directed to various aspects of the methods of the present invention. More particularly, these Claims are directed to downloading in response to a preference update; downloading in response to the mobile communication device moving outside a predetermined boundary; downloading in response to a time-based trigger; the user preference comprising temporal parameters that specify when the selected information may not be pushed to the mobile communication device; and the user preference comprising numerical parameters that specify the number of information items that will be accepted.

Support for new Claims 27-31 can be found generally throughout the specification, and can be found more particularly at page 10, paragraph 00029, and page 8, paragraph 00027.

Conclusion

All of the objections and rejections in the outstanding Office Action of 07

October 2003 have been responded to, and Applicants respectfully submit that the pending Claims 1-2, 4-17, 19-20, 22-24, and 27-31 are now in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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